

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-32. (Canceled).

33. (Currently Amended) A storage system comprising:

a plurality of disk devices configured to a plurality of non-removable storage volumes;

a network interface to be coupled to a computer;

a control unit coupled to the disk devices and to the network interface, ~~and for processing a first instruction transmitted through the network interface;~~ and

a memory coupled to the control unit,

wherein the control unit receives a verification command from the computer to identify whether a removable storage device is present,

wherein the control unit sends a reply to the computer indicating that a removable storage device is present, the removable storage device being virtualized, as a first virtualized removable storage device, and being related to a first storage volume of the plurality of non-removable storage volumes and not being related to a plurality of other storage volumes of the plurality of non-removable storage volumes

such that the computer can access the first storage volume as a removable storage device.

~~_____ wherein the control unit provides a plurality of virtual storage units related to the plurality of storage volumes to the host computer;~~

~~_____ wherein when the first instruction indicates a particular virtual storage unit, the control unit determines whether or not the particular virtual storage unit is mapped to at least one storage volume of the plurality of storage volumes, and~~

~~_____ wherein if the particular virtual storage unit is mapped to the at least one storage volume, the control unit provides the at least one storage volume as the particular virtual storage unit to the host computer.~~

34. (Currently Amended) A storage system according to claim 33,

wherein in order forwhen the computer is to be booted, the at least one first storage volume that is indicated as being a non-removable storage device is recognized by the computer while the plurality of other non-removable storage volumes are not recognized by the computer~~is mapped to the virtual volume for providing to the computer and at least another one of the storage volumes is not mapped to the virtual volume such that the computer can be booted without needing to recognize the another storage volume that is not mapped to the virtual volume.~~

35. (Canceled).

36. (Currently Amended) A storage system according to claim 35,

wherein, based on receiving an ~~second~~ instruction from the computer for ejecting the ~~first particular~~ virtualized removable storage device ~~unit from the virtual disk drive~~, the control unit modifies a volume management table so that ~~the control unit makes the computer recognizes~~ that the first virtualization removable storage device ~~volume~~ is ejected, and

wherein the control unit notifies the computer of completion of ejecting the first virtualized removable storage device ~~volume~~.

37-40. (Canceled).

41. (Currently Amended) A storage system according to claim 33,

wherein a second storage volume is set as a replica volume of the ~~first~~ at least one storage volume, and

wherein the control unit stores data into the ~~first~~ at least one storage volume and the second storage volume if the control unit receives a write command for writing data to the ~~first particular~~ virtual removable storage device ~~unit from the computer~~.

42. (Currently Amended) A storage system according to claim ~~40~~ 41,

wherein, in response to receiving an ~~third~~ instruction for stopping a replication from the computer, the control unit stops storing the data into the second storage volume.

43. (Currently Amended) A storage system according to claim 36,

wherein a second storage volume is set as a replica volume of the ~~first~~ at least ~~one~~ storage volume,

wherein the control unit stores data into the ~~first~~ at least one storage volume and stores data to be stored in the first storage volume to the second storage volume if the control unit receives a write command for writing data to the ~~first~~ particular virtual storage ~~device~~ unit from the computer, and

wherein, based on receiving ~~another~~ the second instruction from the computer, the control unit stops storing the data into the second storage volume.

44. (New) The storage system according to claim 43, wherein the data in the second storage volume is a copy of data in the first storage volume, and wherein said another instruction instructs to stop copying.